

# Celebrate

from page 1D

curator of 20th century art at the Detroit Institute of Arts, selected works by 37 artists from 29 communities in Michigan.

"This show is a superb cross section of Michigan art, including many artists who have devoted impressive careers to working here, as well as some at the beginning of their professional lives," Wilkinson said in a statement.

This year's first prize (\$1,000) winner is "Perfect Idea" by Nelson Smith of Ferndale, who earned a master of fine arts degree from the Cranbrook Academy of Art. "The work features bright colors and a subtle message. The painting shows two large, red, shadowy hands, a cup and saucer, and a book in a bird cage with an open door. All of the images are over a text that is integrated into the paint.

The viewer is invited to explore mysteries of the mind. Is the book with its ideas "safe" in the cage, or should it be "free"? What is the key to finding a way out of the surrounding writing?

"Perfect Idea" will be reproduced on a limited edition fine art poster, sales of which will benefit programs at the non-profit PCCA.

Second prize (\$500) went to Pi' Beans of Adrian and third prize (\$250) to Robert Biebel of Ferndale. Honorable mention awards (\$100 each) went to Allen Berke of Madison Heights and Carole Zek of Rochester.

Beno's piece, "Hejira," features a paper human figure, torn in places as though it were a cocoon from which something had emerged. The figure reclines on a pile of burlap tassels, which resemble the tops of cattails, and examines a brown smear on its chest.

"Bonies & Stones I" is Biebel's work. Components of the mixed media wall piece include an apparent verbeche, a smooth stone, hooks and pieces of wood. The items are arranged on a wire screen. It is "bare bones" but also has a strong beauty with its symmetry.

Berke, who teaches at Wayne State University and the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, presents an untitled oil work that represents Michigan's auto history. A faceless assembly line of cars turns into a variety of workers in the foreground, the rugged workers taking on the strength of auto components. A figure suggesting Walter

Rutherford is at the side. Berke exhibited at the Xochipilli Gallery in Birmingham recently and at the Helen DeRoy show at Oakland Community College last year.

"Daughter," a mixed media work by Zak, comments on the role of women. The piece features acrylic and antique prints. Portraits of different men line the border, while a portrait suggesting mother and daughter is repeated in the center, all on a quiltlike design. The message is that women have been kept in place without change, but a crack in the center hints that this pattern may be broken. Zak's work may be seen at the David Klein Gallery in Birmingham.

Verley

Among the other local artists are Joseph Bernard and Dale Sparage of Birmingham Hills, Peter Gilieran and Sally Kaplan of Birmingham, Shirley Parish of Lathrup Village and Marian Mudie and James Pujdowski of Redford.

Bernard's "Bottom of the Hour" is an acrylic and collage on wood. Its elements include film strips and what look like seeds, arranged within a series of rectangles.

"Street Crowd" by Gilieran is an oil painting upon which a pointillist style plays, colors dancing and lines overlapping. Sparage's "Broken Spell" is a haunting, charcoal on paper piece in which a will hangs loose over a flat figure. As the will moves slightly, it is as if the figure is moving with a feeble breath.

Bright and brooding hues converge in two oil paintings, "Marian" by Mudie and "Excursion" by Pujdowski, a portrait and a scene of awesomeness respectively. In "Excursion," bands of color are angled or placed almost vertically or horizontally to create a sense of flowing movement.

Kaplan's "Her First Steps . . ." consists of bronze figures standing on the wall. They turn things around as the viewer turns a head to examine them. Color is strong in Parish's oil painting, "Eternity . . ."

Arts Foundation of Michigan provided the \$1,000 first place prize. The Avon Printing Co., the Balian Eye Center, Dorman & Upton and First of America Bank's Rochester Community Group each made \$1,000 contributions toward exhibition expenses. American Express donated the printing costs of the call for entries. Consumer Power underwrote the exhibit invitation.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Call (810) 651-4110.

## Fest seeks artists, volunteers

The Southfield Parks and Recreation Cultural Arts Division is looking for volunteers to help with the seventh annual Autumnfest, taking place Sunday, Sept. 11, at the historic Mary Thompson Farm on Evergreen between 10 and 11 Mile.

Volunteer activities would include ticket and food distribution, and parking supervision.

The division is also looking for any individuals who possess old-time skills in arts and crafts, such as weaving, quilting, woodcarving or canning and who are willing to demonstrate their abilities to the general public throughout the day.

Also, any artists who are interested in displaying and selling their works at the Autumnfest are asked to call the division soon at (810) 554-4717. Space is limited.

For more information about the Autumnfest, call (810) 554-4717.



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